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E.O. 12356: N/A  
SUBJECT: FURTHER MEDIA REACTION O'NEILL CODEL VISIT

1. SUMMARY: O'NEILL CODEL CONTINUED TO RECEIVE HEAVY PRESS PLAY DURING WEEKEND FOLLOWING VISIT TO CARACAS (APRIL 4 TO 7). STORIES DEALING WITH CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATES' VIEWS ON PROTECTIONISM AND THEIR ACTIVITIES APPEARED IN INNER PAGES OF MOST DAILIES, WITH ENGLISH-LANGUAGE "THE DAILY JOURNAL" PROVIDING MOST COVERAGE. COMMENTARY BY REPORTERS AND SOME COLUMNISTS EMPHASIZED O'NEILL'S OPPOSITION TO REAGAN REQUEST FOR AID TO NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE AND LATIN AMERICAN ADVOCACY OF NON-INTERVENTION PRINCIPLE IN CENTRAL AMERICA. END SUMMARY.

2. LEFTIST COMMENTARISTS SUCH AS EL NACIONAL'S ALFREDO PENA AND ROGELIO GARCIA LUPO NOTED WITH ENTHUSIASM REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO SPEAKER O'NEILL EXPRESSING HIS OPPOSITION TO AID TO ANTI-SANDINISTAS, QUOTING HIM: "YOU KNOW PERFECTLY WELL MY OPPOSITION TO AID TO THE CONTRAS. THE U.S. CAN NOT IGNORE THE EXISTENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND AUTHORITIES OF THAT COUNTRY (NICARAGUA). TO SUPPORT THE CONTRAS WOULD BE TO SUPPORT IRREGULAR GROUPS THAT ARE NOT LEGITIMATELY CONSTITUTED..." (LEFTIST "EL NACIONAL", PAGE D-2, APRIL 5) AND ASSERTIONS THAT HIS POSITION ON THIS ISSUE HAD NOT CHANGED. ON THE OTHER HAND, CENTRIST EL UNIVERSAL'S HERMOGENES LOPEZ (A PSEUDONYM FOR THE EDITOR) EXPRESSED IMPLICIT DISAPPROVAL OF O'NEILL'S VIEWS, AS FOLLOW: "LEFTISTS, AS ARE SOME DEMOCRATS, (SUCH AS) THE KENNEDYS AND THE CARTERS AND MANY OTHERS SIMILAR TO VENEZUELAN WHO DEMONSTRATED DESIRE TO HAVE CONTADORA ARRANGE PEACE IN NICARAGUA, OF COURSE A PEACE IN WHICH COMMUNISTS REMAIN AS THE GOVERNMENT. I HAVE ALWAYS SAID THAT, IF IT WERE NOT FOR THE U.S., JAPAN, ENGLAND, THE WEST, AND THE ENTIRE WORLD WOULD BE COMMUNIST... I AM AN ENEMY OF MILITARY INTERVENTION IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, BUT AID TO THE NICARAGUAN REBELS IN MONEY I CONSIDER CONVENIENT" (CENTRIST "EL UNIVERSAL", PAGE 6). THESE TWO DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED VIEWS ARE THE FULL EXTENT OF COMMENTARY ON THE O'NEILL VISIT TO DATE.

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TOR: 081736Z APR 86

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3. HERewith HEADLINES:

A) "REMEMBER VIETNAM", LEFTIST "EL NACIONAL", PAGE D-2, APRIL 7.

B) "O'NEILL AND THE CONTRAS", LEFTIST "EL NACIONAL", PAGE 8, APRIL 7.

C) "GOODBYE, MR. TIP", LEFTIST "EL NACIONAL", PAGE 4.

D) "CENTRAL AMERICA, CONTADORA, AND OIL CRISIS DEAL WITH BY CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION SINCE YESTERDAY", MASS CIRCULATION DAILY "EL MUNDO", PAGE 2, APRIL 4.

E) "APPRECIATION: THE AMERICAN CONGRESS", CENTRIST "EL UNIVERSAL", PAGE 6, APRIL 6.

F) "SATISFACTION WITH THE OUTCOME OF O'NEILL VISIT", CENTRIST "EL UNIVERSAL", PAGE 12, APRIL 5.

G) "IN FEDERAL CAPITOL: RECEPTION FOR AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN", CENTRIST "EL UNIVERSAL", PAGE 24, APRIL 5.

F) "CONGRESSMEN OPPOSED TO U.S. OIL IMPORT TAX BUT SAY PASSAGE STILL POSSIBLE", ENGLISH-LANGUAGE "THE DAILY JOURNAL", PAGE 1 AND 8, APRIL 5.

G) "CONGRESSMEN DEFEND PROTECTIONISM", ENGLISH-LANGUAGE "THE DAILY JOURNAL" PAGE 3, APRIL 5.

H) "VENEZUELA HONORS VISITING U.S. CONGRESSMEN", ENGLISH-LANGUAGE "THE DAILY JOURNAL", SOCIAL PAGE WITH PHOTOS, PAGE 14, APRIL 5.

I) "PARLIAMENTARY AGENDA: O'NEILL TRAVELS TODAY TO SANTO DOMINGO", MASS CIRCULATION 2001, FRONT PAGE, APRIL 5.

J) "CONGRESSMEN DEPARTED", CENTRIST "EL DIARIO DE CARACAS", PAGE 20, APRIL 6. COLE  
END OF MESSAGE

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